Haksar Committee on Lalit Kala Academy

547. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: *Will the* Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the principal recommendations of the Haksar Committee on the working of the Lalit Kala Academy found acceptable by Government;

(b) the recommendations which Government is not in a position to accept; and

(c) the follow up measures undertaken to implement the recommendations that have been accepted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE): (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recommendation No. 9.91 which does not favour the Lalit Kala Akademi's programme of purchasing works of art from contemporary artists has not been accepted by the Government.

(c) The Government has taken up the matter of implementation of the Haksar Committee's Recommendations with the Lalit Kala Akademi which is under their active consideration.

Operation Black Board Scheme

548. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have modified the operation Blackboard Scheme;

(b) if so the details of the changes made;

(c) the achievement made under this scheme in different States during the 8th plan period; and

(d) the steps taken too make the scheme more effective?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. of EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE): (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From March, 1994 the scheme of Operation Blackboard was modified to include upper primary schools; its scope was expanded to provide a third teacher in primary schools where enrolment exceeds 100. Central assistance will comprise of salary of the additional teacher during the 8th Plan and equipment of upper primary schools.

(c) 99.9 per cent of the targetted schools under the on-going OB scheme have been sanctioned teaching learning equipment, 96 per cent of the targetted additional teachers' posts have been sanctioned and the balance would be covered during the current year. The achievement made under the scheme in different States during the 8th plan is given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(d) In order to make the scheme more effective, the following steps have been taken;

— State Governments have been given flexibility to decide specific teaching learning materials suitable for each State and have been advised to decentralise purchases while ensuring quality control.

— Training of teachers is being specifically focussed upon.

— It has been made mandatory to recruit atleast 50 per cent women teachers.

— States are also being assisted, through cost sharing pattern, for school room construction under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.